

ILNA Coin Digest

Winter 2010



*The Official Publication
of the Illinois Numismatic Association*

www.ilnaclub.info

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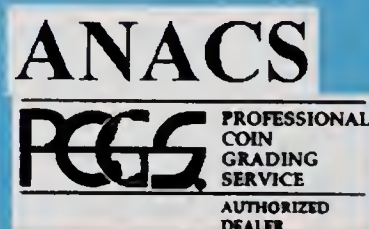
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ILNA Coin Digest

Official Publication of the
Illinois Numismatic Association

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	MEMBERS	4 Issues - MEMBERS
Full Page	\$ 42.50	\$ 145.50
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Full Page	\$ 46.00	\$ 163.50
1/2 Page	\$ 30.50	\$ 94.50
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President Steven Harrison
President's Message

Dear ILNA members,

I hope you all had a wonderful season. Now we are into that time period after Christmas where the midwest weather sets in, and we all have plenty of time to work on our coin collections. What an incredible time in history to be a coin hobbyist! The precious metal rollercoaster continues everyday with its crazy moves up and down with no end in sight. The United States Mint is constantly creating new and different exciting coins every month; So many that it cannot seem to keep up with production of some of its old issues! Everyone you talk to wants to be involved in this historic time in our economy and own some gold and silver in some form. Wow! What a hobby and business to be in! How did I get so lucky? ("Thanks Dad!")

On another note, I want all the ILNA members to know that myself and the entire board are looking into the possible allegations of missing funds from our 50th Anniversary coin show. We will do everything in our power to straighten this problem out and bring to justice all involved to the fullest extent of the law. I personally promise to put new rules into effect immediately so this cannot ever happen again in our club. This is all I can comment on this for now, as the investigation continues. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call, e-mail, or write me, and I will do my best to keep you informed as to how things are going.

Being president of ILNA is an honor that I take very seriously. In the coming months, we need to look at ways to grow the membership of our organization, getting new generations interested in this wonderful, exciting hobby, as well as keeping older generations and experienced collectors informed and involved should be the number one job of our organization. I will do my best to see that we stay on course as an organization.

Yours truly,

Steve Harrison
Happy coin hunting!
5909 S Kedzie
Chicago IL 60629
Phone: (773) 436-0777



Secretary Michael Doran

Secretary's Message

By the time you read this edition of the ILNA Coin Digest, notices for dues should have already been received for those who are up for dues renewal in 2010. Please take a moment to pay your dues as I would like to have as few second notices to mail out as possible. If you're unsure as to whether you are paid for the year or not, please feel free to contact me at either by phone at **(217) 663-0276**, e-mail at **secretary@ilnaclub.info**, or by regular mail at **P.O. Box 401, Charleston, IL 61920-0401**.

On a final note, 2010 marks 15 years since I have joined the ILNA Board, and 8 years since I became Secretary. Looking back 15 years ago, Kermit Wasmer was President of ILNA, and the association was starting to have its annual Fall Show and Conventions in the Chicago area. Due to the hard work of not only Kermit but also of others, like Andy Reiber, Don Keopple, Steve Butler, Richard Prouty, and Steve Harrison, ILNA has grown to become a much respected organization which its members can really be proud of. I often reflect on what this association has accomplished in those 15 years, and trust me, we have done a lot. The founding fathers of ILNA would most certainly be proud.

On behalf of the Officers and the Board of Governors of ILNA, I would kindly thank each and every member for their continued support in promoting numismatics in the Land of Lincoln.

Respectfully,
Michael B. Doran
Secretary

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ILNA



Illinois Numismatic Association

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

I hereby apply for membership in the Illinois Numismatic Association. This application is subject to the Constitution & By-Laws of the Association.

Date _____

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____ Date of Birth _____

Telephone Number _____

E-mail _____

Occupation _____

Numismatic Specialty _____

Numismatic Affiliations _____

Applicant Signature _____

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP (Check One)

☐ REGULAR (1 Year) - \$10.00

☐ JUNIOR (1 Year) - \$2.00

☐ REGULAR (2 Years) - \$18.00

☐ LIFE - \$150.00*

☐ RENEWAL

* As per ILNA Constitution and By-Laws, you must have been a member in good standing for at least 1 year and approved by the Board of Governors.

Please complete form with proper amount of dues and mail to:

MICHAEL B. DORAN, ILNA Secretary
P.O. Box 401, Charleston, IL 61920-0401

Bourse Chairman Jim Paicz

Bourse Chairman's Message

Well the Holiday's are finally over and I hope yours was great.

Now the work for the 2010 really begins. So far we have a 75% dealer retention rate with two of these being grading companies returning, MMNS & PCGS Currency. For the dealers that attended our show last year and have not sent in your application for 2010 you will be receiving a letter as a reminder and have until February 15, 2010 to get your deposit in to keep your current table location, if not received by then tables are reserved on a first come first serve basis.

The ILNA Show has had two articles published one each in Numismatic News & Coin World. Thanks to John Schikora for great articles and the time it took to create them. The Youth Auction will be better than ever and we have new ideas in the works. We are striving to be more dealer friendly and working hard to get more collectors and get our young people more involved and as always volunteers are always in need. So if you would like to help out at the show just drop us a line at paiczj@aol.com or call at 708-670-3469.

As always it is a pleasure to serve you.

Jim Paicz

Bourse Chairman

Gerry Gerber

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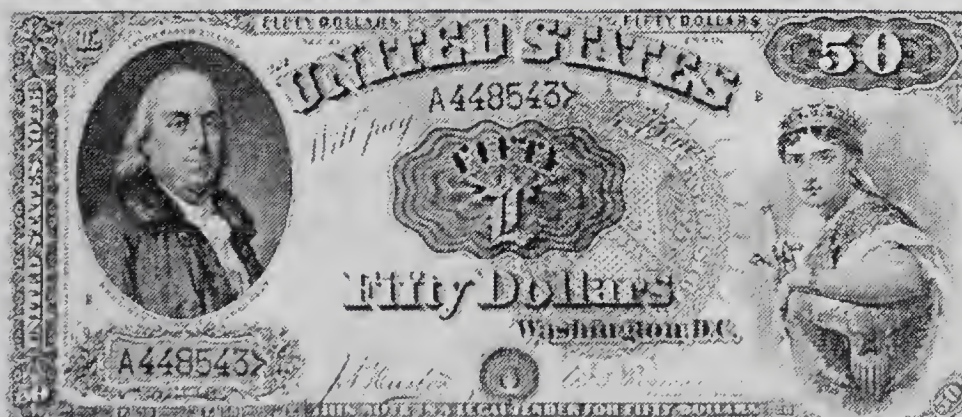
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Illinois Numismatic Association Fall Coin Show September 9 - 11, 2010

Thursday Sept. 9, 9 AM to 11 AM Dealer Setup
11 A.M. to 3 P.M. - Dealer Setup and Early Birds
3 PM to 7 PM Open to Public

Friday Sept. 10 8 A.M. to 9 A.M. Dealer Setup, Early Birds
9 A.M to 7 P.M. Open to Public

Saturday Sept. 11, 8 A.M. to 9 A.M. Dealer Set, Early Birds
9 A.M. to 5 P.M. Open to the Public

Tinley Park Convention Center Holiday Inn Select

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Youth Auction at 12:30 P.M.

Dealers: For table information and reservations, contact:

Bourse Chairman - Jim Paicz

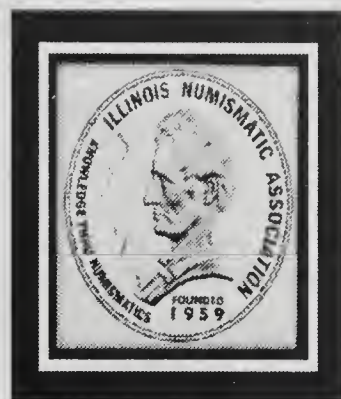
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ILLINOIS NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

51st COIN & CURRENCY SHOW

BOURSE APPLICATION

September 9, 10, & 11, 2010



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Dealer Name: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____

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Premium tables 8 to 11	@ \$900	# _____	\$ _____
Front corner table 6'x8'	@ \$480	# _____	\$ _____
Standard table 6' x 8'	@ \$460	# _____	\$ _____
Corner wall 6' x 6'	@ \$430	# _____	\$ _____
Standard 6'	@ \$200	# _____	\$ _____
Lights(None included)	@ \$ 7	# _____	\$ _____
Cases(None included)	@ \$ 20	# _____	\$ _____
Night Covers		# _____	

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3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

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TOTAL DUE \$ _____

(\$100 Per Table) Deposit Enclosed \$ _____

BALANCE "IN FULL BY JUNE 15, 2010" \$ _____

- 2 Badges for 1 6Ft. table, additional badge for each 6Ft table.
3 Badges for corner table
4 Badges for premium tables

Additional badges \$35.00 Each

CONDITIONS OF THE AGREEMENT

The undersigned specifically releases the Illinois Numismatic Association, its officers and members, and/or committees, either in their official or individual or personal capacities, by reason of any loss, or injury whatsoever sustained, either directly or indirectly in connection with the exhibit and or convention. The undersigned further agrees not to sub-lease, rent, or sell the table(s) to any other persons without written permission from the Bourse Chairman of the Coin & Currency Show. No refunds for cancellations less than one month before the show.

AGREED TO AND ACCEPTED BY: _____ Date: _____

Bourse Chairman: Jim Paicz
PO Box 628, Richton Park, IL 60471
paiczj@aol.com - 708-670-3469
John Schikora 708-423-9091

Making Sense

by John D Wright

This year has a few noteworthy worldwide events that should identify it quickly. If those don't label the year, a US event or two may reveal it before we get to the numismatic section.

This year the T'ai Ping Rebellion in China expands as rebels defeat the Manchu rulers and take the cities of Nanking and Shanghai.

The Crimean War has its origins this year, as Britain, France, and Sardinia support Turkey against Russia on the north shore of the Black Sea. Russia wants to protect Christian shrines in Palestine against Turkish desecrations. Britain and France side with Turkey because they fear Russian control of the route from the Black Sea to the Holy Land.

Commodore Matthew Perry, under US Presidential orders, anchors three US warships in Tokyo Harbor to deliver a letter to the Shogun of Japan requesting a treaty establishing provisioning of US ships in Japanese ports and opening of free trade between the US and Japan. Perry states that such a treaty is "a right, not a favor". Mindful of China's recent disastrous experience in the Opium War with Britain, concerned over civil war within Japan over this issue, and intimidated by Perry's refusal to remove his warships, the Shogun complies and Japan's closed-door isolation is ended. A month after the Shogun's concession to Perry, a Russian expedition under Putyatin arrives in Nagasaki with a similar "request". The tongue-in-cheek version of these events is "Perry opens previously closed Japan and finds it to be full of Japanese".

The second Worlds Fair opens this year in New York City in a huge steel-and-glass "Crystal Palace" patterned after the one for the London Great Exhibition of 1850. This is the first Exhibition to bill itself as a "Worlds Fair".

German-born piano maker Heinrich Steinweg (Henry Steinway) opens a piano factory in New York City.

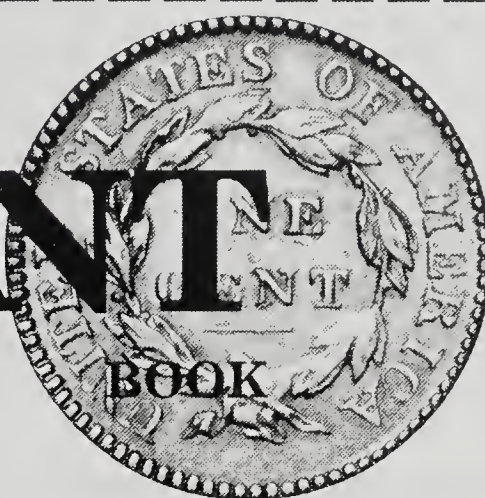
The New York Clearing House opens on Wall Street in Manhattan this year. This is the first US bank clearing house. It serves 38 banks and will process two million dollars in transactions on its first day.

Waltham Massachusetts has more than thirty small factories producing pocket watches under the name of "American Waltham Watch Company".

Continued on page 14



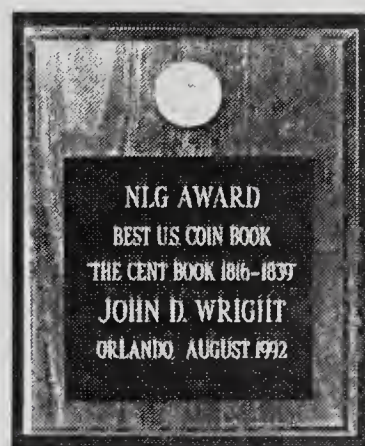
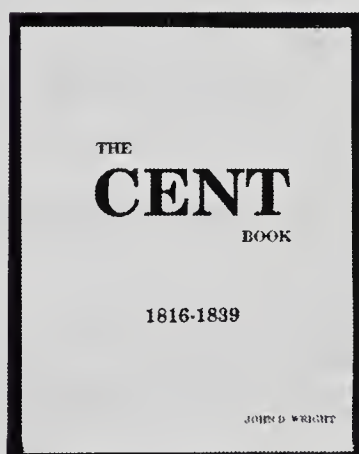
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John D. Wright, 1468 Timberlane Dr. ,
St. Joseph, MI. 49085

Making Sense

(continued)

John Bausch and Henry Lomb form a partnership this year in Rochester NY to create precision optical lenses.

Samuel Colt opens an armory in Hartford CT to mass-produce handguns. Next year Britain will place huge orders for Colt handguns in support of the Crimean War.

An exclusive lodge in Saratoga NY produces the world's first potato chips this year. A wealthy customer – some versions of the tale claim it was Cornelius Van Derbilt — complains that his fried potatoes are too soggy. Out of spite, chef George Crum slices the re-ordered potatoes wafer-thin and fries them crisp. "Saratoga chips" become an instant hit that spreads across the nation.

The Mount Vernon Hotel opens in Cape May NJ. It is the world's first hotel with private baths.

Godfrey Keebler opens his Steam Cracker Bakery this year in Philadelphia. Keebler will become a leading US producer of cookies and crackers.

The B&O Railway reaches Wheeling (now WV), completing its plan to connect Baltimore to the Ohio River. Its route across the Allegheny Mountains requires the use of oversize steam engines.

The Indiana legislature authorizes "vigilante committees" to combat horse thieves. Also in Indiana, the 459-mile Wabash Canal is finally completed from Lake Erie to the Ohio River at Evansville IN. The original project only went from the Maumee River to the Wabash River, but the Wabash and Maumee Rivers were too shallow to carry barge traffic, so costly extensions were needed. The cost of digging and maintaining this canal will eventually bankrupt the state of Indiana.

A yellow fever outbreak kills 11,000 in New Orleans this year. Vicksburg MS loses one sixth of its population to the spreading epidemic.

This year the clipper ship *Northern Light* bests the *Flying Cloud* speed record to California by two weeks. But this sailing is from Boston, so the New York to San Francisco record still stands – 90 days from New York and 76 days from Boston. Neither record will be beaten under sail.

Universities founded this year include U of Melbourne in Australia, Washington U in Saint Louis, and U of Florida in Gainesville.

Continued on page 23

Sailboat

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**Future SUNDAY Shows: May 16, September 19,
November 21**

Can You Assemble A Proof Set For \$20 Or Less Per Coin?

by Mark Benvenuto

Almost everyone who calls themselves a coin collector has at least two things in common: we want to own beautiful coins, and we don't want to spend a lot of money doing so. By most measures, proof coinage is the top of the line, at least when it comes to beauty. But when it comes to affordability, many of us have to balk, at least once in a while. It makes a person wonder though, what kind of proof coins, from cents to dollars, can you get for less than \$20 per coin? Finding out just might be fun.

Lincoln cents. If you look through any price guide at proof Indian head cents, you'll find that the only thing you can use \$20 for is a bookmark in the price guide. The Indian head cents are far out of our range. Lincoln cents are another matter, though. For \$13, as this is being written, you can land a 1952 in the rather odd grade of PF-63RB. Taking this alphabet soup of a label apart, it means the coin is a proof, the same grade as a mint state – 63, and that is has red-brown coloring. The odd part is to see a proof as low as the 63 grade. By way of explanation, we can imagine that all proofs didn't strike up particularly well back in the 1950's, or that they have not all been handled too well in the intervening years.

If you want an older, proof Lincoln cent, but one in a better grade, try the 1955. In PF-65 it costs \$18. If you want to spend the full \$20 we've allocated per coin, and you want an even better grade, the 1957 rings in at the desired price, at the grade of PF-66. Perhaps obviously, there are plenty of newer Lincolns that also can be had within our self-imposed price range.

It appears that we're off to a pretty good start.

Jefferson nickels. If Indian head cent proofs were expensive, don't even bother looking at Buffalo nickels. These eternal collector favorites do have a few years of proofs in and among them. The prices though, well, they always start in the four figure range. Jefferson nickels though have a lot to offer.

Continued on next page

Can You Assemble A Proof Set For \$20 Or Less Per Coin? (continued)

The oldest proof Jefferson nickel we can get for \$20 or under, in any grade, is the 1952, also a \$13 coin in PF-63. The mintages for both the 1952 Lincoln cent and the Jefferson nickel, as proofs, are 81,980. The reason they are the same is hopefully not too much of a mystery: they were sold as part of the annual proof sets. In the intervening decades, some of the sets have undoubtedly been broken up.

By the time your finger glides down the price guide from Jeff nickel proofs of 1952 to those of 1955, you realize that these have become remarkably inexpensive coins. Plenty of PF-65 dates of the late '50's and the early '60's can be purchased as PF-65 graded coins for less than \$5. Perhaps in setting a \$20 price ceiling we've actually aimed too high!

Roosevelt dimes. That \$20 ceiling will probably be our savior as we move into dimes, since we've moved into silver. The comments we've just made about Indian head cents and Buffalo nickels hold for Mercury dimes as well. Our curiosity alone dictates that we look, but the Mercury dime price tag for even the cheapest proof? Yowch, it's pretty high. Roosevelt dimes though, are another story – a more pleasant story.

Roosevelt dimes have seen proofs made every year since 1950. The oldest we might be able to snag for just \$20 is a 1953, again in the PF-63 grade. There were 128,800 produced that year, making it a good buy against the Lincoln cents and Jefferson nickels we just looked at. Should you want to move up to some higher grade, well, that's entirely do-able. The 1954 is a \$20 coin in PF-64, the 1955 costs that as a PF-65 item, and the 1956 (with which we seem to be getting quite familiar) costs a couple of dollars less than that for a gem of a coin in PF-66.

If those prices for earlier, proof Roosevelt dimes are attractive, take a look at the dates in the 1960's and '70's. By then, the proofs of the series are inexpensive enough that you can obtain numerous dates for less than \$10, and do so in grades such as PF-68. That's very impressive.

Continued on page 30

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RECENT ACQUISITIONS

~Le Monete dei Papi e Degli Stati Pontifici

by F. Muntoni, Rome, 1972-74, 4 Volumes, Complete

~The Provincial Token-Coinage of the 18th Century

by R. Dalton & S.H. Hamer, 1910-1918, 2 Volumes, Original

~American Bond Detector and Complete History

of the US Government Securities, Washington, 1869,

by Laban Heath & American Bond and Currency Detector Company

~The Medals of the Masonic Fraternity

Described and Illustrated by William R.T. Marvin,

Boston, 1880 and Masonic Medals Supplement

~The Obsolete Paper Money of Virginia by Charles J. Affleck

Volumes I & II

~Jackson's Silver & Gold Marks of England, Scotland & Ireland

Edited by Ian Pickford

~Celtic Coinage of Britain by R.D. Van Arsdell

with Foreword by Barry Cunliffe

~Numismatic Studies, No. 6, The Alexander Coinage of Sicyon

Arranged from Notes of Edward T. Newell

with Comments and Additions by Sydney P. Noe,

The American Numismatic Society, 1950

~Oriental Numismatics, A Catalog of the Collection of Books

Relating to the Coinage of the East, Presented to the Essex Institute

Salem, Massachusetts by John Robinson, 1913

~Roman Historical Coins by Clive Foss

~Numismatica Mexicana, Una Guia de su Literatura

by Christopher Martin Bolton Morgan

Making Sense

(continued)

This year popular songwriter Steven Foster publishes *My Old Kentucky Home* and *Old Dog Tray*.

By this year over 1.2 million copies of *Uncle Tom's Cabin* have been sold. In response to claims that her novel exaggerates the brutal conditions of slavery, Harriet B Stowe publishes *Key to Uncle Tom's Cabin*, a set of footnotes and sources to validate her original work.

A disastrous fire destroys the Macmillan Publishing warehouse. The loss is 1.5 million dollars, the largest ever for a publisher's warehouse. Among the losses are the original plates and all remaining unshipped copies of Herman Melville's *Moby Dick*.

The United States Review this year predicts that "Within a half a century machinery will perform all work – automata will direct them. The only tasks of the human race will be to make love, study, and be happy."

The SS San Francisco sinks enroute to California. Two hundred forty of its seven hundred passengers are lost at sea.

Thomas Walker sails from San Francisco with an armed band to LaPaz Mexico to 'colonize' the peninsula of Baja California. He declares this Mexican state as an independent republic with himself as President. Next year Walker will add the Mexican state of Sonora to his claim. He will later take Nicaragua by force, he will attempt an invasion of Costa Rica, his army will be defeated by the Costa Rican army, and he will be arrested by US marshals.

The US intends to build a railway past the Rocky Mountains to California. The only flat-land route for this lies a bit south of the US/Mexico border. The US agrees to buy this strip of desert from Mexico for \$15 million, but Congress approves only \$10 million, and Mexico agrees to the reduced sum. This land, the 'Gadsden Purchase' will be the final border-adjusting of what is now called "the continental 48". Only the first \$7 million of the price will ever be paid, and \$1 million of that will disappear before its delivery to Mexico.

In Oregon Territory this year, Native Americans agree to and sign the 'Table Rock Treaty', transferring all of their lands to white settlers for \$60,000. The promised payment is never made.

Continued on next page

Making Sense

(continued)

Franklin Pierce is sworn in as the fourteenth President of the US. His party will not support him for a second term.

Jefferson Davis is appointed as the US Secretary of War. Now THERE is a bit of irony for you!

After two years of small-change shortage, the US Congress passes the Coinage Act of 1853. This act has an added minor clause that will bear fruit next year. But for this year we will cover the immediate aim of the act, which authorizes a weight reduction and increased coinage of silver coins below one dollar. This will alleviate the small-change shortage, as the melting of silver coins will no longer be profitable. A minor design change will identify the lighter coins. Outward-pointing arrowheads flank the date on the new half dimes, dimes, quarters, and half dollars. These marks will be carried for only three years, but the lighter-weight coinage will continue.

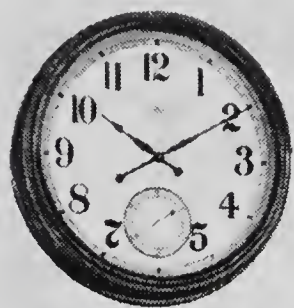
In addition to the arrowheads, a glory (sunburst) is added behind the eagle on the reverse of the reduced-weight quarters and half dollars of 1853. This addition is retired at the end of 1853, creating a one-year type for quarters and half dollars (called "Arrows and Rays").

In California, several private mints and the US Assay Office of Gold continue to mint gold coins for local circulation in denominations of 25c to \$20. The four federal mints strike twelve denominations in copper, silver, and gold. The massive influx of lighter-weight silver coins (over 60 million pieces) eclipses the largest-ever mintage of gold dollars (4.4 million), all other gold (3.4 million), and all copper (6.7 million) combined. The shortage of small-change silver will become a glut within a very few years.

The most noteworthy US coin of 1853 is the old heavyweight half dollar from New Orleans that lacks the "Arrows and Rays". There are no records of any being struck. Three examples are known, all of them worn (G, VG, F-VF), besides several fakes (mostly from 1858-O). Curiously, PCGS claims to have certified two MS62 examples of this rarity, but have provided no pictures, no news stories, and no other documentation to substantiate their claim. I would class this as "likely a clerical (typo) error in the PCGS Population Report".

There are no noteworthy rarities of 1853 gold, though Charlotte and Dahlonega issues are quite scarce for any year.

Continued on page 28



Minutes of Fall 2009 Board Meeting Comfort Suites - Bloomington IL Friday, October 9, 2009

The Fall board meeting of the Illinois Numismatic Association was called to order at 7:29pm with the following officers: Vice President Steve Harrison, Secretary Michael Doran, Treasurer William Burd, and Chairman of the Board Steve Butler. Board members present at the meeting are as follows: Donna Doran, Richard Prouty, Andrew Reiber, and John Schikora. Excused were Jim Paicz, William Price, and David Spring. There were 2 guests, Brian Jaskierski and Donald Keopple II.

RESIGNATION OF FRANK ZAPUSHEK

Secretary Doran informed the Board that President Frank Zapushek has submitted his resignation as both President and Bourse Chairman due to health reasons.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Vice President Harrison, as Acting President, called the meeting into executive session at 7:31pm to discuss association matters that are of a confidential nature. At 8:03 Harrison called the meeting out of executive session.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Secretary Doran read the minutes of the August 16th meeting. After discussion, a motion was made by Reiber to accept both minutes, and seconded by Burd, with revisions, passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Burd reported to the Board that the accounting for the Fall Show was not complete and it was still being worked on. Also, Burd informed the Board that the association will be doing business with Founders Bank of Worth, IL. In addition, he informed the Board that he is in the process of getting the association a new life membership certificate of deposit.

DIGEST EDITOR'S REPORT

Digest Editor Donna Doran informed the Board that bills for advertising are being mailed out. After discussion, a motion was made by Reiber to accept

Continued on page 29

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Making Sense (continued)

Half cents and cents of 1853 are common, with one die-variety of the former and 33 of the latter. Mint records show no Proofs struck this year. Apparently none were struck later either, as none are known today.

The only feature that I find interesting on 1853 cents is an occasional die-misalignment. A 'misalignment' is where one side (normally the reverse) is centered and the other is off-center. This has been noted on five die varieties of 1853 cents, most commonly on N-19.

**John D Wright is the author of "The CENT Book",
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Minutes Fall Board Meeting (Cont.)

the report, and seconded by Schikora, passed unanimously. Also, it was recommended by Donna Doran that all future ILNA Coin Digests have full color covers including the ads. After discussion, a motion was made by Reiber to approve the recommendation, and seconded by Prouty, passed unanimously.

NEW BOARD MEMBER

Harrison introduced the Board to Brian Jaskierski of Chicago, who has inquired on becoming a Board Member. After discussion, a motion was made by Reiber to make Jaskierski a Board Member, and seconded by Donna Doran, passed unanimously.

NEW PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT

Harrison informed the Board that since Zapushek resigned as President that, as per the Constitution and Bylaws, he is automatically President. He then recommended Andrew Reiber to succeed him as Vice President. After discussion, a motion was made by Burd to approve the recommendation, and seconded by Prouty, passed with Michael Doran opposing.

OLD BUSINESS – FALL 2009 SHOW

The Board discussed the Fall 2009 Show in regards to what was done right, went wrong and what would be needed to improve it.

NEW BUSINESS –NEW BOURSE CHAIRMAN

Harrison informed the Board that he is appointing Paicz for Bourse Chairman effective with the 2010 Fall Show.

FUTURE SHOWS

It was discussed by Harrison that there were contracts for future Fall shows at Tinley Park that need to be approved. After discussion, a motion was made by Reiber to proceed, and seconded by Prouty, passed unanimously.

MEETING DATES

The Board agreed on the following dates for future meetings – 2/9 in Bloomington, 5/16 in Itasca, 7/25 in Springfield, and 10/17 in Bradley.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Reiber to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Donna Doran, passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:00pm.

Submitted by
Michael B. Doran
ILNA Secretary

Can You Assemble A Proof Set For \$20 Or Less Per Coin? (continued)

Washington quarters. In looking at proof quarters, there's no point at all in looking to anything prior to the Washington series, as there were no proofs made for the Standing Liberty quarters, at least not according to most references. And any quarters prior to that are old enough that examples in proof are going to be extremely costly. But the Washington quarters? Well, there are quite a few good prices here.

The first good news among the proof, Washington quarters is pegged to the 1954. Your \$20 actually lands you a piece in PF-65, which means you can get one in PF-64 for lower. The 1956 that we seem to keep returning to can be added to any growing set of proofs as a PF-65 for \$15, or as a PF-66 for \$25 – which means we would be breaking our rule by a few dollars.

Just like the Roosevelt dimes, there are plenty of younger Washington quarters that can be found in higher proof grades for \$20 or less. It was the year 1957 that recorded the first proof set mintage of more than 1 million coins, and that translates very well for collectors today. There are certainly plenty of years in the late 1950's and early 1960's where PF-65s and PF-66s can be purchased for \$10 - \$20. Anything with no silver in it – meaning 1965 or newer – has an even better set of price tags.

Kennedy half dollars – and Franklins too! Moving up to half dollars we find the odd but immensely satisfying situation that not only are there proof Kennedy half dollars in the \$20 or less range, there are proof Franklin half dollars, as well. Perhaps we should recant a bit, about the “odd” at least, because the Kennedy half dollar is one of our younger circulating coins. Franklin halves were produced every year up to and including 1963, which means the earliest years of the series overlaps with those of the smaller denominations we have just looked at.

The first year of the Franklin proofs that comes in at \$20 or less is that now familiar 1956 at the now familiar PF-63 grade. The highest grade Franklin that you can snag as a proof appears to be the 1960, the 1961, and the 1962

Continued on next page

Can You Assemble A Proof Set For \$20 Or Less Per Coin?

(continued)

, all of which list as \$20 coins in PF-64C, that final 'C' meaning a cameo finish. This is really quite impressive. There's more than one half dollar from a finished series that can be obtained as a proof specimen for \$20 or less. Quite impressive, indeed.

If there are proof Franklins in the price range we like, there have to be plenty of proof Kennedy halves. A quick look down a price guide and listing shows us that even the 1964 – the one 90% silver Kennedy half – is a \$16 coin in PF-65. And the price drops as the coins get younger.

"Silver" dollars? Anyone who thinks there's a proof Morgan or Peace dollar out there for \$20 or less can be described with kindness as "touched in the head." Believe it or not though, there are a few Eisenhower dollars that were made as the 40% silver proof issues that can indeed be purchased today for this attractive, low price. The 1971-S costs \$20 for a PF-66DC specimen, the 'DC' meaning deep cameo. This means that the lower proof grades cost even less. The 1972-S parallels its earlier sibling in prices. The 1973-S is a bit more expensive, but there are still proof grades where \$20 will get you one. You can run down this list all the way to the 1978-S proofs (which are not 40% silver) and still find that \$20 goes a long way.

Well, that's a brief survey, but one that proves a point. You can put together a proof set from cent to dollar for a total of \$120. Apparently, \$20 still has some purchasing power.

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Local Shows

March 7, (Sun) Wat-Cha-Kee Coin Club , Watseka, IL, 9 AM to 4 PM, *Location:* Celebrations on the Corner, 209 W. Oak St (Coner of 2nd and Oak) , Watseka, IL , *Tables:* 30, *Fee:* 8ft. \$40, *Admission:* Free, *Contact:* John Tonner, 550 E. Mulberry St. Watseka, IL 60970 *Phone:* 815 432-6439

March 7, (Sun) Metro East Coin & Currency Club Show , Collinsville, IL, 9 AM to 4 PM, *Location:* American Legion Hall, 1022 Vandalia Ave (IL RT 159) , Collinsville, IL , *Tables:* 30, *Fee:* 6ft. \$35, *Admission:* Free, *Contact:* Johnny Kicklighter, PO Box 23 Belleville, IL 62222 *Phone:* 618 277-4493

March 14, (Sun) Tazewell Numismatic Society 12th Spring Coin Show East Peoria, IL. *Location:* East Peoria Event Center, 4200 E. Washington St., East Peoria, IL (Rt. 8 Between East Peoria and Sunnyland) *Tables:* 60 +, *Fee:* \$50, *Admission:* Free, *Contact:* Steve Rassi, PO Box 696, Pekin, IL. 61554 *Phone:* 309 263-0739

March 21, (Sun) Central Illinois Numismatic Association Spring Coin Show-Springfield, IL. *Location:* Northfield Center I , Northfield Drive and Dirksen Parkway (3280 Northfield Drive) Springfield, IL. *Tables:* 60 *Fee:* \$40 *Admission:* \$1 C.I.N.A. Members and children 16 and under are free. *Contact:* Steve Butler, 1712 S. First St, Springfield, IL 62704. 217 528-7634

March 28 (Sun) Hillsboro Hiltop Coin Club, 46th Gillespie Area Coin Show, 9AM to 4 PM, *Location:* Gillespie Civic Center 115 N Macoupin Ave, Gillespie, IL *Tables:* 45 *Fee:* \$25 *Admission:* Free, *Contact:* Hiltop Coin Club, PO Box 23, Benld, IL 62009, email: hiltopcc@yahoo.com

April 25 (Sun) Elgin Coin Club Spring Show, 9 AM to 3 PM, *Location:* VFW Post 1307, 1601 Weld Rd, Elgin IL *Tables:* 32 *Admission:* Free *Contact:* Don Cerny, PO Box 561, South Elgin, IL 60177 *Phone:* 847 888-1449

May 16, (Sun) Tazewell Numismatic Society 50th Anniversary Coin Show East Peoria, IL. *Location:* East Peoria Event Center, 4200 E. Washington St., East Peoria, IL (Rt. 8 Between East Peoria and Sunnyland) *Tables:* 60 +, *Fee:* \$50, *Admission:* Free, *Contact:* Steve Rassi, PO Box 696, Pekin, IL. 61554 *Phone:* 309 263-0739

July 25, (Sun) Central Illinois Numismatic Association Summer Coin Show-Springfield, IL. *Location:* Northfield Center I , Northfield Drive and Dirksen Parkway (3280 Northfield Drive) Springfield, IL. *Tables:* 60 *Fee:* \$40 *Admission:* \$1 C.I.N.A. Members and children 16 and under are free. *Contact:* Steve Soltys, email: ssoltys@insight.com, *Phone:* 217 793-2178

Local Clubs

Central Illinois Numismatic Association. *Meetings:* Second Thursday of each month, 7:00 P.M. at the Knights of Columbus Hall, North Council #4175, 2801 West St., Springfield, IL. *Information:* Jay Peniwell, 4 Oak Ridge Dr. Decatur, IL. 62521. Phone 217 428-9853

Champaign-Urbana Coin and Currency Club. *Meetings:* First Monday of each month, 7:30 pm at the Urbana Civic Center, 108 Water St., Urbana, Illinois. *Information:* Clyde Sweet, Box 1174, Champaign, IL, 61824. email: cwsweet3@msn.com web site: www.melonbones.com/cucc

Chicago Coin Club. *Meetings:* Second Wednesday of each month, 7:00 P.M.. at Chicago Bar Association Building, 321 S. Plymouth Court, Chicago, IL 60604 and The Chicago Coin Club holds meetings at several coin and paper money shows. *Information:* Chicago Coin Club, P.O. Box 2301, Chicago, IL. 60690. Phone 773 878-8979 or email Carl Wolf at carlwolfco@msn.com

Club of Illinois Numismatists (C.O.I.N.S. Club). *Meetings:* Second Thursday of each month, 7:30 P.M.. at the Hazel Crest Village Hall, 3000 W. 170th St, Hazel Crest, IL. *Information:* (Mailing address) C.O.I.N.S. Club, P.O. Box 849, Hazel Crest, IL 60429

Corn Belt Coin Club. *Meetings:* First Tuesday of each month, 7:30 P.M.. at the Bank of Illinois, 200 W. College Ave., Normal, IL. *Information:* Phone Jeff Stover 309 532-3205

Danville Coin Club. *Meetings:* Third Monday of each month, 7:00 P.M.. at the Palmer American Bank, Danville, IL. *Information:* Danville Coin Club, 2816 Baumgart, Danville, IL. 61832. Phone 217 443-6942

Dupo Coin Club. *Meetings:* Third Monday of each month, 7:30 P.M.. at the V.F.W. Hall, 200 N. 5th St., Dupo, IL. *Information:* Dupo Coin Club, 409 Olympia St, Columbia, IL. 62236. Phone Ron Nowak at 618 281-4875.

Edgar County Coin Club. *Meetings:* Third Sunday of each month, 2:00 P.M.. at the Chamber of Commerce, 105 N. Central, Paris, IL. *Information:* Pat Brazelton, 1231 N. High St., Paris, IL 61944 Phone: 217 463-2217 email: pbraz@joink.com

Elgin Coin Club. *Meetings:* First Wednesday of each month, 7:00 P.M.. at the Elgin VFW Post at 1601 Weld Road, Elgin, IL. *Information:* Elgin Coin Club, P.O. Box 561, South Elgin, IL. 60177

Local Clubs

Fairfield Coin Club. *Meetings:* Second Sunday of each Month (Except Sunday of Annual Show), Noon to 3:00 p.m. at Frontier College, (Highway 45-15 West) 2 Frontier Drive, Fairfield, IL. *Information:* Elias N. Simpson, 501 West King St., Fairfield, IL. 62837. *Phone:* 618 842-2035

Hillsboro Hiltop Coin Club. *Meetings:* Last Wednesday of each month, 7:30 p.m. (except July) at the Challacombe House, 509 School St., Hillsboro, IL. *Information:* Hiltop Coin Club, P.O. Box 23, Benld, IL 62009 email: hiltopcc@yahoo.com

Indian Hill Coin Club. *Meetings:* Second Wednesday of each month, 8:00 p.m. at the Avon Township Hall, Washington St. in Round Lake Park. *Information:* Mike Hanninen, 2400 Horeb Ave., Zion, IL. 60099.

Lake County Coin Club. *Meeting:* First Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Location is Jester's Lounge, 1500 Lewis Ave, Waukegan, IL. *Information:* Lake County Coin Club, 2210 Crescent Pl., Waukegan, IL. 60085.

Mattoon Coin Club. *Meetings:* First Tuesday of each month, 7:30 p. m. , Second floor of County Market (food store) at 20th St. and Western Avenue, Mattoon, *Information:* P.O. Box 143, Mattoon, IL. 61938.

Metro East Coin & Currency Club. *Meetings:* Third Tuesday of Sept. thru Nov. and Jan. thru April, 7:00 P.M. Edgemont Bible Church, 5100 N Illinois, Fairview Heights, IL. *Information:* Metro East Coin & Currency Club, PO Box 23. Belleville, IL. 62222. Phone 618 277-4493.

Oak Forest Numismatic Society. *Meetings:* First Friday of each month, 7:30 p.m. at the Bremen Township Hall, 15350 Oak Park Ave., Oak Forest, IL. *Information:* OFNS, P.O. Box 287, Oak Forest, IL. 60452

Quad-City Coin Club. *Meetings:* Third Thursday of each month, 7:30 p.m. at the Garden Center of the Moline Park Board (located off 5th Ave, at 34th St.), Moline, IL. *Information:* John Brixey, Quad City Coin Club, P.O. Box 332, Moline, IL. 61266

Rantoul Coin Club. *Meetings:* Second Thursday of each month, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Temporarily at the American Lutheran Church, 500 Church Drive, Rantoul, IL., *Information:* RCC, 203 E. Campbell St. Rantoul, IL. 61866

Rockford Area Coin Club. *Meetings:* Third Thursday of each month, 6:00 PM at the Loves Park Library, 6340 N. Second St., Loves Park, IL (Just north of Rockford). *Information:* Don Smith, 100 W. Main, Rockton, IL 61072, Phone Daytime 815 624-0422

Local Clubs

Tazewell Numismatic Society. *Meetings:* First Wednesday of each month at the First United Methodist Church, 1315 Court Street (Across from hospital), Pekin, IL. Time: 7:00 PM *Information:* D. Freidinger, P.O. Box 1203, Pekin, IL 61555-1203. Phone 309 353-6178.

Wat-cha-kee Coin Club. *Meetings:* Second Thursday of each month, 7:30 p.m. (No meeting June, July, August) at Celebrations on the Corner, 209 W. Oak St (Coner of 2nd and Oak) , Watseka, IL., *Information:* Phone Kermit Wasmer at 815 432-4636.

Will County Coin Club. *Meetings:* First Thursday of each month, 7:30 p.m. at the People First Bank, 3100 Theodore St in Joliet, IL. *Information:* Mark Wieclaw, 175 W. Wood St., New Lenox, IL. 60451 or phone 815 485-4137.

Make sure you notify us as soon as possible of show dates. We will post the dates on our web site and in the next "Digest". Mail all show and club information to: Donna Doran, PO Box 401, Charleston, IL 61920 or email: editor@ilnaclub.info or phone at (217) 821-9838.

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